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Request for the inclusion of an additional item in the agenda of the fifty-eighth session

Observer status for the GUUAM in the General Assembly

Letter dated 4 September 2003 from the Permanent Representative of Georgia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

In my capacity as the country coordinator for the GUUAM, on behalf of the GUUAM States, and in accordance with rule 15 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly I have the honour to request the inclusion in the agenda of the fifty-eighth session of the General Assembly of an additional item entitled "Observer status for the GUUAM in the General Assembly".

In accordance with rule 20 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, attached to this letter are an explanatory memorandum (annex I) in support of the above request and a corresponding draft resolution (annex II).

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly.

(*Signed*) Revaz **Adamia**
Ambassador,
Permanent Representative

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Annex I

Explanatory memorandum

1. The GUUAM was founded on 10 October 1997 in Strasbourg during the Council of Europe summit, where the joint communiqué of the heads of State of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Georgia, the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine was adopted. In that document the Presidents underlined the necessity of the development of quadrilateral cooperation to strengthen stability and security in Europe, on the principles of respect for sovereignty, territorial integrity, the inviolability of borders, democracy, the rule of law and respect of human rights. Uzbekistan joined the GUUAM in 1999.

2. The Yalta GUUAM Charter (see A/55/992) was signed by the Presidents of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Georgia, the Republic of Moldova, the Republic of Uzbekistan and Ukraine during the GUUAM summit in June 2001.

3. The Yalta GUUAM Charter defines the following objectives of cooperation of the GUUAM:

- Promotion of social and economic development
- Strengthening and expanding of trade and economic links
- Development and effective use of the transport and communication networks and their corresponding infrastructure
- Strengthening of regional security in all spheres of activity
- Development of relations in the field of science and culture and in the humanitarian sphere
- Combating international terrorism, organized crime and drug trafficking.

4. The highest body of the GUUAM is an annual meeting of the heads of State. The executive body of the GUUAM is constituted by the regular meetings of Ministers for Foreign Affairs. The working body of the GUUAM is the Committee of National Coordinators. The GUUAM Information Office has been functioning in Kyiv since July 2002. There are seven working groups to facilitate cooperation on the issues of energy; transport; trade and economic links; information technology; culture, science and education; tourism; combating terrorism, organized crime and drug trafficking.

5. The GUUAM is interested in the development of mutually beneficial cooperation with third countries and international organizations with the aim of achieving shared goals and principles. In view of the fact that combating international terrorism, organized crime and drug trafficking were defined among the key goals of the GUUAM, it was invited to participate in the special meeting of the Counter-Terrorism Committee of the Security Council with international, regional and subregional organizations held on 6 March 2003, and provided its summary report on the GUUAM counter-terrorism activities at that meeting. The granting of observer status in the General Assembly will allow the GUUAM to contribute to a broader spectrum of activities of concern and importance to the United Nations.

Annex II

Draft resolution

Observer status for the GUUAM in the General Assembly

The General Assembly,

Wishing to promote cooperation between the United Nations and the GUUAM,

1. *Decides* to invite the GUUAM to participate in the sessions and the work of the General Assembly in the capacity of observer;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take the necessary action to implement the present resolution.